



Hook, Line, and Sinker

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New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen • P.O. Box 294 • New Ulm, MN 56073 Web Site: newulmsportfish.org.

Matching up for Ice Walleyes

By Matt Johnson

We're starting to embark on the time of year where fish tend to meander more frequently. Staying on top of the fish can be very difficult at times and it seems as if we're only catching one or two fish out of a hole before the school moves on. If this appears to be a routine trip for you then don't lose hope. There are ways to help you catch more fish out of each hole...

Staying on top of a school of fish is oftentimes more than half the battle. If you could only get one or two more drops down before the fish move on. Then you move to the next hole in hopes that the school went in that direction but you only find an empty water column on your flasher. Sound about right? These fish need something to help them stick around and they need to obtain a certain level of comfort, especially when dealing with trophy-size fish. Adding some sort of attractor is very critical in situations like this. Dropping down something loud and flashy can sometimes draw fish in (although at times noise can be a detriment to finicky fish, so use noise more sparingly than visual appeal). Something flashy is more likely to attract fish to the area. A shiny jiggling spoon or a gold or nickel jig can draw fish in. Grab their attention and then let them decide if they want to eat.

Another option is to drop down a lively minnow out of a separate hole nearby. It doesn't have to be drastic. A simple crappie minnow can even do the trick. What this does is draw fish in and more often than

not keeps them in the area. The curious fish will relate to the struggling minnow, and even though they might not be interested in eating it, they still find it somewhat appealing. Result factor being that you get more swings at that cruising school of fish. The minnow trick can work for all species; you just might have to upsize the offering in order to entice the desired specie. Sucker minnows are great walleye and even perch attractors. Even panfish will relate to a struggling sucker or shiner minnow, so don't neglect the fact that smaller fish will target larger prey. Again, we're not expecting these fish to necessarily eat the offering; we just want them to be attracted by it. Keep in mind however, that this decoy line is considered one of your two lines (if in Minnesota), so now its up to you to catch the fish with your jig rod. Yes the minnow trick is nifty, but when I'm looking for that added punch I turn towards my artificial structure in the form of Reel Weeds. We've all seen its recent wave of popularity in recent years, and its no secret that these fake weeds work. Adding structure into a structure less area is worth its weight in gold during certain conditions... and if you ask me, one of those conditions is right now when we're trying to keep the wandering school underneath us. Dropping down a series of Structure on a String will increase your chances at keeping those schooling fish in your area. Even in areas where weeds are currently present, adding a piece of structure out of the norm will grab the fishes attention.



A donation made by Peterman to the E.E. Mecklenburg Scholarship



Wyman makes a donation, for kids prizes, in memory of his dad, Wayne Forbrook.

~~~~~  
Just look at it this way... when we see a new steakhouse open up on our favorite not we soon decide to stop in for a bite. Consider that new addition of structure to be that brand new steakhouse. Now, we're not looking for the fish to stay there forever, all we're looking for at this time is to have an extra swing at the ball, or even a swing at all. Instead of watching the school move, you now have more

Continued on page 2

## Club Calendar

Jan 29th .....NUASF Club Meeting  
(Eric Olson Steak Night)  
Feb 1st .....Sleepy Eye Sportsman Fishing Contest  
Feb 5th .....NUASF Special Meeting for Contest Prizes  
Feb 8th .....NUASF Ice Fishing ContesClear Lake

Feb 12th .....NUASF Dixon Fishing Trip  
Feb 26th .....NUASF Club Meeting  
Mar 12th .....NUASF Social Night at  
Club House  
Mar 26th .....NUASF Club Meeting



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## From the President .....

By Jason Kuester

As most of you all know Eric Olson will be visiting us at our next meeting. Eric is a wonderful asset to our club and we would like to THANK him for his support. Eric donates trips for our Fishing Contest, membership drive, and also provides us with a great STEAK meal at our January meeting. To help with this great meal we are asking everyone to please bring a dish to pass. Eric will also be bringing extra hamburger along to the next meeting if you are interested in purchasing some from him.

P.S. Eric will be serving the meal before the meeting! Gate will be open at 5:30 PM

Thank You to everyone that helped put up the Thin Ice Signs on clear lake!

As everyone knows our Clubs Ice Fishing Contest is February 8th. We should have the prizes collected, and posters in place within the next couple weeks. Ticket sales can continue up to the day of the contest. Once again this is our clubs biggest money maker, and we will need many volunteers for this event. Tickets and posters are available at the next meeting or by contacting Ross Nelson 507-766-0765 or myself at 507-381-2041 or e-mail at jr@newulmtel.net and we will get you as many as you would like.

All prizes must be turned into the club on or before Thursday February 5th. We will be having a special meeting on the 5th at 6:00 pm to organize all of the prizes for the contest.

There are 23 people signed up for the Dixon Lake resort trip! I need to have everyone's down payment by the next meeting. Due to the great turnout there will be a sign up sheet for meals, and spear houses at the next meeting. If you are unable to attend the next meeting contact me at 507-381-2041 or e-mail at jr@newulmtel.net.

Winter is here and what a great time to bring our friends and family to the New Ulm Area Sport Fisherman Club. We are always looking for new members to join. If you know of someone bring them along and show them how much fun we have at our club. As always, bring a friend and each of you will receive a free refreshment of your choice!

**Hope to see you at the next meeting!**

## Ice Walleyes Continued from page 1

to set the hook. Even the most negative of fish will stop n to take a peek. Fish equate green weeds with forage... forage oftentimes equates to hungry fish... and hungry fish equates to more pictures of you holding rophy fish. Even though Reel Weeds might not produce oxygen, we're dealing with fish who do in fact believe the appeal and color are ndeed real. Fish are simple creatures really. Drop something shiny down and they flock towards it. Drop something down that moves and they'll swing in for a look. But drop something down that looks real and provides comfort... well then, you might just have found yourself a hole with more than one fish.

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426 North Minnesota Street  
New Ulm, MN 56073  
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## Hook, Line, and Sinker

The *Hook Line and Sinker* is published monthly by joyce reese graphic design for the New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are solely those of respective writers and not to be construed as the opinion of the NUASF or its members. Send all correspondence and submissions to New Ulm Area Sport Fishermen, P.O. Box 294, New Ulm, MN 56073.

### The NUASF Board

President - Jason Kuester (381-2041); Vice-President - Gary Sprenger (359-9358); Secretary - Ross Nelson (507-766-0765) Treasurer - Tony Miller (354-2457); Board Members: Ron Ludewig (507-276-6093), Mike Buechner (354-2739 s), Ken Sutherland (507-276-1534).

## Monthly Meeting Dec 18th , 2014 Members Present: 50+

### I. Secretary Report

- A) Motion made by Jim Liebl and seconded by Jim Hulke to except report as read. Passed unanimously.

### II. Treasury Report

#### A) Balance \$

- 1) Motion made by Jim Liebl and seconded by Tom Simonson to except report as read. Passed unanimously.

### III. Old Business

#### A) Membership update.

- 1) 173 – 28 due Tony Miller leads membership drive w/ 3 new members

#### B) Area Lakes and Rivers Report.

- 1) Lake of the Woods – getting limits 12-16 inches of ice.
- 2) Clear Lake – Catching some perch and sunfish -10-12” ice
- 3) Leech – Spearing good 24” ice
- 4) Devils Lake – Perch real hot
- 5) Lake Hanska – Small walleye

#### C) Club House and Grounds Update.

- 1) Nilsen property purchase. Possible meeting middle of January.
- 2) Thanks to Orv for doing the floors.
- 3) Tony worked on the back steps , more work to be done.
- 4) Two Fire extinguishers were purchased, signs to follow . We should bring them to the ice fishing contest.
- 5) Talked about doing a capital campaign to purchase property.
- 6) Old grill was scraped & and we need more mouse poison.

### IV) Other Old Business

#### A) None

### V) New Business

- A) Membership drive winner is Tony Miller

- B) Hi Island Ice Fishing contest is 1/17/15

- 1) Please help if you can. Test netting showing 6-8” fry’s
- 2) Didn’t freeze out as much as first thought, there as some big fish.

### C) Newsletter advertising

- 1) Motion made by Jim L. & seconded by Orin Schultz to give Ice Castle, Scheels, Retzlaff - 2 free years of ads for all their help.
- 2) We will talk over at our next board meeting about level of donations a business should have before we hand them free advertising.
- 3) Free ads in 2014 – Eric Olson, Mankato Tent, Don’t Doors
- 4) Questions on Pullmans, Schells, & M&B. They haven’t paid.

#### D) Club Ice Fishing Contest.

- 1) Prize collection help see Pat Roiger
- 2) Posters available
- 3) Journal and shopper ads will be in 2 time.
- 4) Ticket sales going OK
- 5) Tom S got the food license. Roller derby girls would help at the booth if they could put out a tip jar. Talk at our next meeting.
- E) Wyman Forbrook presented a check to be used to purchase kids prizes for our ice fishing contest. In memory of his father Wayne.
- F) Club Ice fishing trip. 2/12-15 – 20 have signed up.
- G) DNR round table will be held in January. Motion was made by Mike Deinken and seconded by Jim Hulke to reimburse Scott Sparlin mileage.
- H) Will be putting out signs for aeration system January 10th – meet 8:30

### VI) Other New Business

- A) Don Thompson will retire from the Courtland fire department after 31 years.
- B) St Peter parade of fish houses didn’t happen. Tom S. will look into taking it over and having the parade in New Ulm
- C) Izaak Walton will be donating cash to our summer kids fishing contest
- D) Food next meeting provided by Eric Olson.

### VII) Adjourn @ 8:58




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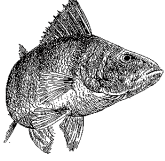
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